The Strange Tales of Oscar Zahn

Stardust & Soliloquies

BY TRI VUONG

ACT 2
CHAPTER 5

MEANWHILE, BACK ON THE ISLAND...

HMMMM
HMMMM
HMMMM

DOOT DOOT DOOT
WEAPON SYSTEMS... CHECK!
HULL INTEGRITY... CHECK!

P.A. SYSTEM... CHECK!
EXCELLENT! THE OLD GIRL'S NOT IN AS BAD A SHAPE AS I FEARED.

ALL THAT'S LEFT
TO CHECK IS...

THE ENGINARIUM
EX UNIVERSALIS!!!

HOW'S SHE DOING, PERCY?
EH... NOT TOO SHABBY, I GUESS.
SOME OF THE BEARINGS ON THE AORTIC VALVE NEED TO BE SERVICED SOON, BUT SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HARMONIC SHIFT.

MIGHT BE A BIT OF A BUMPY RIDE FOR US THOUGH...
MAGNIFICENT!
HRMMM. LET'S SEE...
ONE DAY TO CONVERT THE WHALE SONG WE

WRECKAGE...
ANOTHER DAY TO RUN IT THROUGH THE INTAKE MANIFOLD...
... THEN WE'RE GOOD TO GO! THE CAPTAIN WILL BE SO PLEASED!

THE CAPTAIN...

PERCY?

WHAT IS IT?
I WAS JUST THINKING...
... ABOUT OSCAR...

... AND WHAT WE DID...
...

I KNOW...
BUT... THE CAPTAIN HAD HIS REASONS...
YA.. I GUESS...

...
THEO, DO YOU EVER THINK ABOUT OUR LIVES?
I MEAN... OUR PAST LIVES.
... BEFORE THE CASSIOPEIA...
NO... NOT TOO MUCH ACTUALLY...

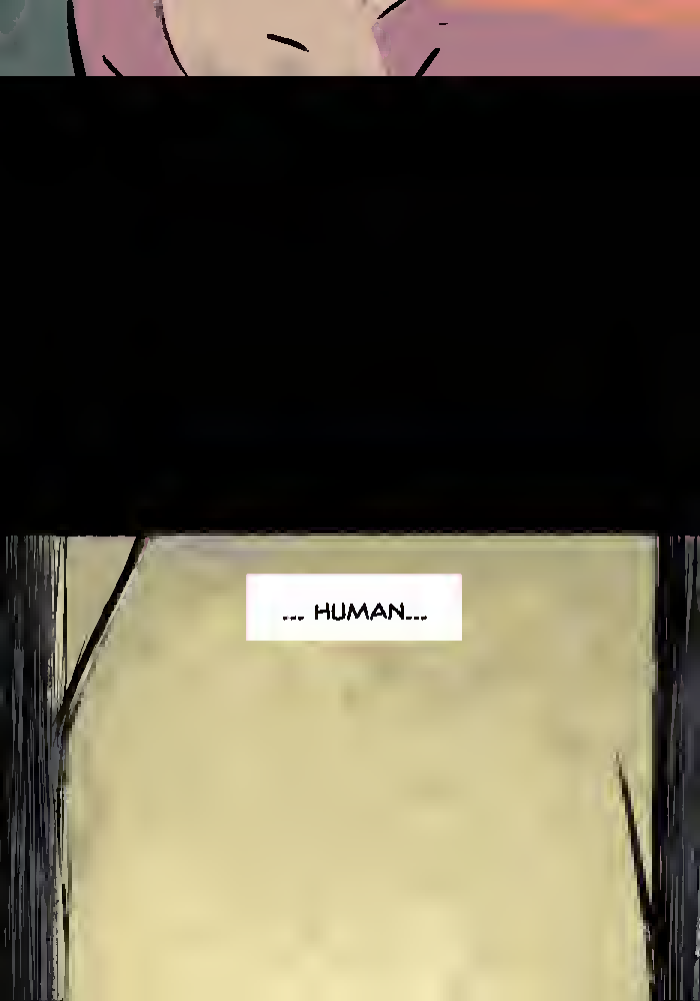
I CAN RECALL THE DETAILS OF MY LIFE...

"BUT THEY FEEL LIKE I'M DREAMING SOMEONE ELSE'S MEMORY."

"I KNOW WHAT TRANSPIRED, BUT SOMETIMES IT'S DIFFICULT TO REMEMBER HOW I FELT ABOUT... WELL..."
"... ANYTHING..."

"SEE.. THAT'S EXACTLY MY POINT, THEO."
SNIFF SNIFF

"WE'VE BEEN 'HYDRONAUTS' FOR SO LONG THAT WE'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO BE..."
HM?


... HUMAN...

PERCY, THAT WAS ANOTHER LIFE.
NOW, WE SAIL THE LOWER SEAS...

... FOREVER SEEKING OUT AND PRESERVING ALL THE LOST AND FORGOTTEN THINGS CAST ASIDE BY MEN.

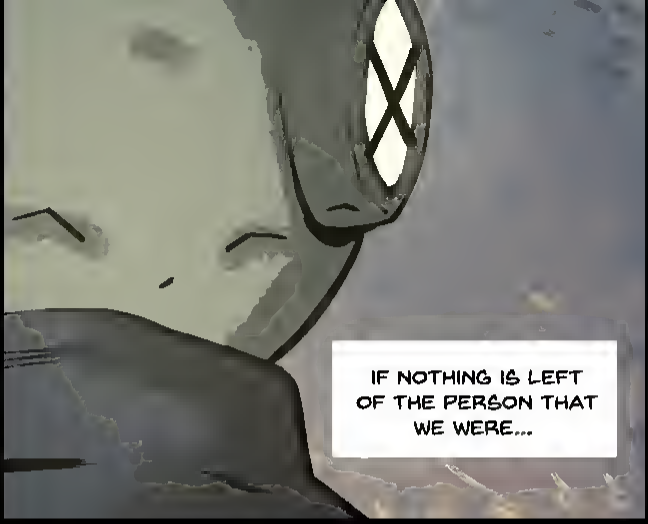
"THE SEA REMEMBERS..."
THAT'S WHAT THE CAPTAIN'S ALWAYS TOLD US...

I'M ... SADDENED...
BY OSCAR'S FATE BUT... OUR
DUTIES MATTER MORE THAN
OUR EARTHLY BONDS...

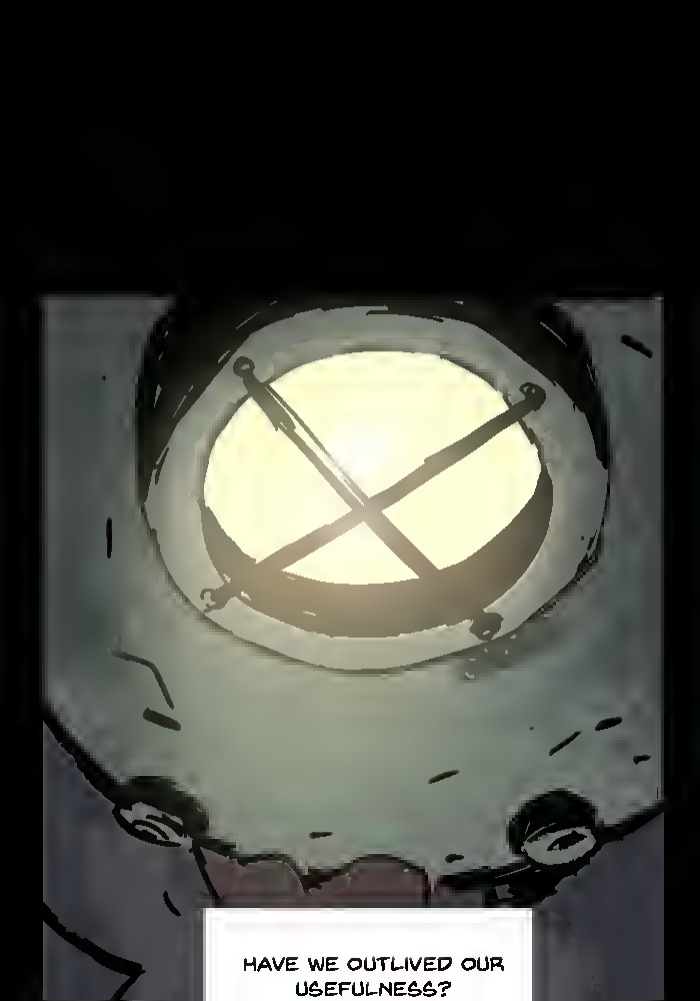
THAT WASN'T OSCAR'S FATE THEO.
THE CAPTAIN ORDERED HIM THROWN OVERBOARD...
... AND WE DID IT WITH HARDLY A FUSS.
THE CASSIOPEIA WAS MEANT TO PRESERVE ALL THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN THE WORLD.

AND THERE MUST ALWAYS BE THREE OF US TO SERVE THE CASSIOPEIA.

BUT WHAT IF WE'VE BEEN ALIVE FOR SO LONG THAT WE CAN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE WHAT'S IMPORTANT ANYMORE?


IF NOTHING IS LEFT OF THE PERSON THAT WE WERE...

WHAT HAPPENS TO US THEN?


HAVE WE OUTLIVED OUR USEFULNESS?

TO BE CONTINUED...

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

HEY GUYS, WELCOME BACK!

THANKS A BUNCH FOR THE NICE COMMENTS AND E-MAILS LAST WEEK. THERE WERE QUITE A FEW MESSAGES AND E-MAILS URGING ME NOT TO WORK TOO HARD AND ENJOY LIFE! THANKS FOR THE CONCERN GUYS!

I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN THINKING ABOUT DOING JUST THAT. THIS MONTH MARKS OSCAR'S ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY ON WEBTOONS AND IT'S BEEN A VERY GRATIFYING, BUT HECTIC YEAR. AT TIMES, I FELT LIKE I WAS BURNING MYSELF OUT TRYING TO WORK ON THE COMIC AND TEACH AND DO FREELANCE AT THE SAME TIME.

NOW THAT I'M STARTING THE SECOND YEAR OF OSCAR ZAHN, I'VE DECIDED TO GIVE UP TEACHING AND FOCUS ONLY ON MAKING THE COMIC. I'M PUTTING ALL MY EGGS IN THE OSCAR ZAHN BASKET BECAUSE.... WELL... I LOVE MAKING THE COMIC SO MUCH!

THANKS FOR READING THE COMIC GUYS! YOUR WEEKLY READERSHIP KEEPS THE COMIC ALIVE! ALSO, A SUPER BIG THANKS TO MY PATREON SUPPORTERS WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY TO

SUPPORT THE COMIC!

BIG THANKS TO NEW PLEDGERS THIS WEEK:

ENDARE! S.
DAVID W.
NICHOLAS G.

SEE YA NEXT WEEK!

- TRI

YOU CAN FOLLOW US ON:

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